

From: Judah Diament
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/10/01 8:42am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern;

I find the Microsoft settlement unsatisfactory on a number of counts.

1) As long as Microsoft can bundle more applications with its operating system, it can easily kill competitors, as it did Netscape. There must be a ban on Microsoft bundling application software with the operating system to insure a fair competitive environment

2) It is wildly unrealistic to assume that the government will be able to monitor and regulate Microsoft's behavior in a way that will not simply be a game of catch-up, with Microsoft always having enough time to hurt competitors before the government steps in to stop it

3) There is an excellent article from Robert Cringley (<http://www.pbs.org/cringely/pulpit/pulpit20011206.html>) which shows how the current language of the settlement would allow Microsoft to kill Linux and open internet standards, which are it's main competition today

We can not allow one company to have a strangle hold on technology, since technology's role in everyone's life and in the government is only going to increase. With the release of the XBox and WindowsXP, Microsoft is moving beyond the desktop and extending its control to the internet and home entertainment. If allowed to continue unchecked, Microsoft will have greater control over our lives than the federal government.

Sincerely,
Judah Diament